



MARVEL
COMICS
GROUP 12¢

the AMAZING SPIDER-MAN

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BY THE
COMICS
CODE
AUTHORITY

20
JAN

IND.



HOW CAN SPIDEY
BATTLE A FOE WHO
IS STRONGER THAN
HE IS ???

YOU'RE ABOUT TO
MEET ONE OF MARVEL'S
NEWEST, GREATEST
ARCH-VILLAINS...

**"THE
SCORPION!"**

Powerful 2-Band AM Shortwave Radio licensed by...



WORLD-WIDE RECEPTION

GETS HUNDREDS
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ULTRA-SENSITIVE
FOR FRINGE AREA LISTENING!

Two bands—twice the listening pleasure! A mighty mite with a BIG voice—weighs slightly over one pound yet boasts a big 2 1/2 by 3 1/2 inch permanent dynamic oval speaker. 10 to 1 slide-rule tuning—this means you get better reception and more stations no matter where you live. 8 powerful transistors in RCA licensed

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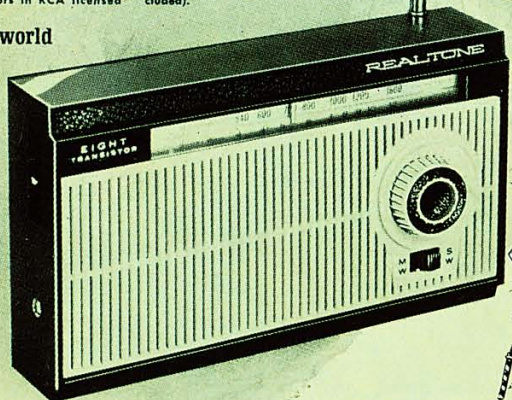
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many others.



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GENUINE LEATHER CASE



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MONEY-BACK GUARANTEE

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Dept. RD-1

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This fine quality Realtone radio has been engineered for superior performance under all conditions. It is made of the finest materials and components. NO CHARGE will be made for replacement of parts or service within 90 days of date of purchase.

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"THE COMING OF THE SCORPION!"

OR: "SPIDEY BATTLES SCORPEY!"

BE SURE TO KEEP YOUR EYE ON THE STARTLING SCORPION!
WE PREDICT THAT HE'S DEFINITELY A CANDIDATE FOR THE
SUPER-VILLAINS' HALL OF FAME!



MANY READERS HAVE ASKED
WHY STAN'S NAME IS ALWAYS
FIRST ON THE CREDITS! AND
SO, BIG-HEARTED LEE AGREED
TO PUT STEVE'S NAME
FIRST THIS TIME! HOW
ABOUT THAT??

ILLUSTRATED BY:
STEVE DITKO
WRITTEN BY:
STAN LEE
LETTERED BY:
S. ROSEN

... BUT WE STILL HAVE
A FEELING THAT SNEAKY
STAN PUT SOMETHING
OVER ON US! ANYWAY,
NOW IT'S TIME FOR
THRILLS, CHILLS, AND
SPILLS...

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REMEMBER THE MYSTERIOUS FIGURE WHO FOLLOWED PETER PARKER HOME FROM SCHOOL LAST ISH? HERE HE IS AGAIN, THE NEXT DAY STILL LURKING IN THE SHADOWS, WAITING FOR THE UNSUSPECTING TEEN-AGER...

SO LONG, LIZ! SEE YOU AROUND, FLASH!

'BYE, PETER! GO PLAY IN TRAFFIC PEST! AHH, THERE HE IS!



BUT THIS TIME, PETER'S PURSUEE GETS OVERCONFIDENT AND FOLLOWS JUST A BIT TOO CLOSE!

MY SPIDER SENSE IS TINGLING! THERE'S SOME SORT OF DANGER NEAR!



IT'S COMING FROM BEHIND ME! NOBODY THERE BUT THAT STRANGER, TRYING DESPERATELY TO PRETEND HE'S AN INNOCENT PEDESTRIAN!



TOO BAD I COULDN'T HEAR HIM FROM THIS HIGH UP! OH, HE'S HEADING BACK TOWARDS MY HOUSE AGAIN!



TRAVELING IN HIS OWN UNIQUE MANNER, THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN ATTEMPTS TO BEAT THE MYSTERIOUS STRANGER TO HIS DESTINATION...

IT'S ALMOST AS THOUGH HE'S AN AGENT FOR SOMEONE ELSE, AND PHONED HIS BOSS FOR FURTHER INSTRUCTIONS!



BUT, REACHING HIS HOME, SPIDEY FINDS...

TOO MUCH TRAFFIC GOING BY THE OTHER SIDE... AND MY UNKNOWN PLAYMATE IS COMING FROM THIS SIDE!



THEN, AFTER PETER HAS REACHED HOME...

I WAS RIGHT! HE'S WATCHING THE HOUSE NOW! BUT, WHY...??



I NEVER SAW HIM BEFORE... DON'T KNOW WHO HE IS! CAN IT BE THAT SOMEBODY HAS FIGURED OUT MY SECRET IDENTITY AT LAST??



WELL, THERE'S ONLY ONE WAY TO FIND OUT, AND WHAT I HAVE TO DO NOW, HAD BETTER BE DONE BY... SPIDER-MAN!



HE'S WALKING AWAY! THAT SUITS ME FINE! HERE'S WHERE THE FOLLOWER BECOMES THE FOLLOWED!!



TWO BLOCKS LATER...

IT'S NO TRICK TO FOLLOW SOMEONE SILENTLY WHEN YOU'VE GOT THE POWER OF A THOUSAND SPIDERS!



HE WENT INTO THAT PHONE BOOTH! WHO CAN HE BE CALLING?



I CAN'T LET ANYONE SEE SPIDER-MAN SWINGING INTO PETER PARKER'S WINDOW... IT COULD BE A TIP-OFF TO WHO I REALLY AM!

BUT, IF I CAN DIVERT THAT SNOOPER'S ATTENTION FOR A MINUTE...



SECONDS LATER, A STRANGE, BAT-SHAPED OBJECT WHIZZES PAST THE STARTLED MAN BELOW... CAUSING HIM TO MOMENTARILY FORGET HIS MISSION!

WHAT IN BLAZES IS THAT??



PERFECT! HE TURNED HIS HEAD JUST LONG ENOUGH FOR ME TO SWING IN THROUGH MY WINDOW, AGAIN BEFORE HE CAN FIND IT!

AND MY LITTLE FLYING BAT WILL HAVE TURNED INTO A THIN STRAND OF WEBBING!



BUT, IN AN EFFORT TO RETAIN HIS BALANCE AFTER THE FLYING LEAP, SPIDEY ACCIDENTALLY BUMPS INTO THE WALL OF HIS ROOM...

DARN IT! I HOPE THIS DOESN'T WAKE UP AUNT MAY!



I HEAR HER FOOTSTEPS NOW! I WAS AFRAID OF THAT! GOTTA CHANGE FAST!



ARE YOU ALL RIGHT, PETER DEAR? I THOUGHT I HEARD...

GOSH, I'M SORRY I DISTURBED YOU, AUNT MAY! I ACCIDENTALLY KNOCKED OVER A CHAIR!

GET AHEAD! Be an Auto Mechanic!

New, Easy Way to Train at Home in Spare Time



EARN MORE, WORK STEADY, LIVE BETTER . . . Start training now for a bright future as an auto mechanic — be ready in months, not years. According to government sources, "employment of automobile mechanics is expected to increase rapidly during the 1960's and in the longer run." Auto dealers alone could use 40,000 mechanics. And a noted Detroit executive said that the nation needs 25,000 more repair shops.

You don't need to give up your present job or work for years as a low-pay apprentice. You can learn at home in your spare time. Let CTI train you — in months. For free details, just fill out and mail coupon. Do this today.

MANY STUDENTS EARN MONEY AS THEY TRAIN

CTI training often pays its own way. A surprising number of students report that they earn money in spare time. They fix cars for neighbors and fellow workers. Such work not only provides the student with cash, it also helps him acquire practical experience. Students are able to apply CTI training early in the course because the lessons are so practical.

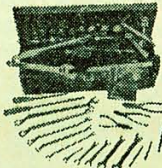
These Men Are Making Good

"Since starting my automotive course, I have worked on almost 50 different repair jobs, some including major overhaul." — Dale Griener, Warner, Neb. . . "The auto course helps me in rebuilding engines. Also I am making more money than I ever did—have had two pay raises." — Frederick Rauland, Geneva, N. Y. . . "I earn a good living and am getting much more work." — Angelo Carrieri, Altoona, Pa. . . "Started with a Ford dealer soon after I earned my CTI diploma." — Robert Bloemcke, North Wales, Pennsylvania.

Own a Repair Shop

Here is your opportunity to be your own boss, to become independent. Here also is opportunity to go on your own without a large investment. You can start in your own back yard, or in the garage, as some CTI students do. If you do repair work as you train, you may have a nice business under way by the time you graduate. Be your own boss!

15 Kits of Tools and Testing Instruments to Help You Learn Fast — by Practicing



MECHANIC'S TOOLS INCLUDING SOCKET SET AND TRAY



TORQUE WRENCH



VISO-ANALYZER (VOLT-AMPERE TESTER)



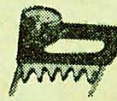
CAM ANGLE TACHOMETER



VACUUM GAUGE AND FUEL PUMP TESTER; COMPRESSION TESTER



STARTER CURRENT BATTERY CELL TESTER



POWER TIMING LIGHT

Testing instruments help locate engine and electrical system troubles quickly, save effort. You also get a set of mechanic's tools. Only CTI sends so much equipment.

30 Job Experience Projects Included

These projects help you bridge the gap between "lessen learning" and actual repairing. Included are such subjects as Spark Plug Troubleshooting, Distributor

Servicing, Cooling System Conditioning and Fuel System Tests. You develop skill using tools, learn to test instruments. You gain confidence!

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CTI training is waiting for you. So are dedicated instructors who will guide your training, help you if you need it. Get complete details: Clip out, fill out and mail the handy coupon. We will send you an opportunity booklet, as well as lesson samples. By reading the facts, you can determine for yourself whether you'd like to get into this highly-paid, secure field. Mail coupon today!

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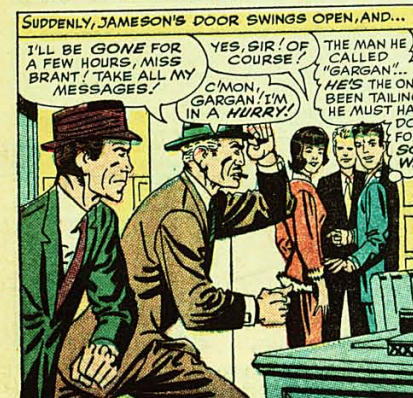
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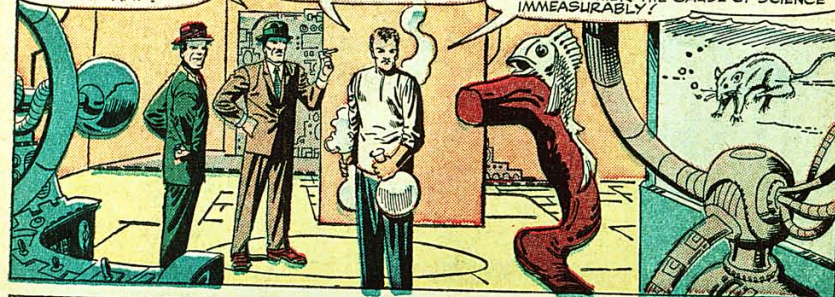


A SHORT TIME LATER, AT THE LABORATORY OF DR. FARLEY STILLWELL...

YOU MEAN YOU ACTUALLY MUTATED A RAT SO IT CAN SWIM LIKE A FISH... AND ENABLED A FISH TO BREATHE AIR LIKE A RAT?

WELL, "MUTATED" IS NOT THE EXACT SCIENTIFIC WORD, MR. JAMESON... BUT I BELIEVE YOU SUMMED IT UP ACCURATELY ENOUGH!

MY WORK, IF PROPERLY DEVELOPED, MIGHT BE OF GREAT VALUE TO FARMERS, BOTANISTS AND THE LIKE. I'M DELIGHTED THAT YOU'VE SHOWN SUCH INTEREST. AN INFLUENTIAL MAN LIKE YOU, PUBLICIZING MY FINDINGS COULD FURTHER THE CAUSE OF SCIENCE IMMEASURABLY!



SURE SURE! NATURALLY! BUT IT'S NOT SCIENCE I'M INTERESTED IN RIGHT NOW! I WANT YOU TO WORK ON A SPECIAL PROJECT FOR ME! IF IT WORKS, I'LL PAY YOU \$10,000!

I'M A RESEARCH SCIENTIST! I DON'T ACCEPT PRIVATE JOBS FOR PAY! AND YET... WITH \$10,000 I COULD BUY NEW EQUIPMENT... NEW MATERIALS!... I'M JUST NOT IN A POSITION TO REFUSE YOU, MR. JAMESON! WHAT IS YOUR PROJECT?

I WANT YOU TO TRY YOUR EXPERIMENT ON A HUMAN BEING. I WANT YOU TO GIVE A MAN POWERS WHICH ARE GREATER THAN SPIDER-MAN'S!

I HAVE ENOUGH SERUM... I HAVE THE KNOW-HOW... AND YET IT MIGHT BE DANGEROUS. I CAN'T GUARANTEE THE RESULTS!

THAT'S OKAY, DOC! I'M WILLING TO CHANCE IT!



MOMENTS LATER... AFTER DR. STILLWELL HAS SHAVED GARGAN'S HEAD...

I CAN GIVE YOU THE POWERS OF A SCORPION, FOR INSTANCE! YOUR BODY WOULD BECOME MORE POWERFUL THAN SPIDER-MAN'S... BUT I DON'T KNOW HOW IT WOULD AFFECT YOUR BRAIN.

WHO CARES? I'M GETTING \$10,000 ALSO FOR MY PART IN THIS... AND I'D DO ANYTHING FOR THAT KIND OF DOUGH!

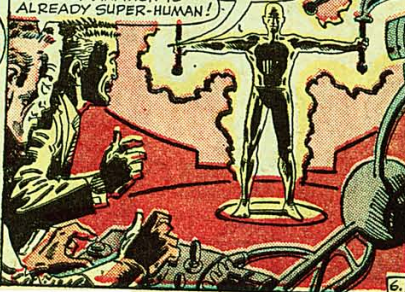
VERY WELL, THEN, DRINK THIS! I KNOW I SHOULDN'T AGREE TO THIS MAD SCHEME, BUT HEAVEN FORGIVE ME, I MUST HAVE THE MONEY TO CARRY ON MY WORK.



THEN, THE LONG ARDUOUS PERIOD OF TESTING BEGINS, UNTIL...

HE'S REACTING PERFECTLY! SEE HOW HIS STRENGTH HAS INCREASED! AND HIS COORDINATION IS ALREADY SUPER-HUMAN!

GOOD! GOOD! JUST SO LONG AS I'M SURE HE CAN BEAT THAT BLASTED SPIDER-MAN! THAT'S ALL I WANT!!



AND STILL THE INCREDIBLE EXPERIMENT CONTINUES...

ONE OF A TRUE SCORPION'S MOST POTENT WEAPONS IS HIS TAIL! AND OUR SYNTHETIC SCORPION SHALL HAVE A TAIL ALSO.

STILLWELL, IF THIS WORKS, I'LL MAKE YOU RICH... FAMOUS! I'LL BECOME YOUR PATRON!



... FOR, THE WORLD MUST BE RID OF SPIDER-MAN! AND AT LAST WE'VE BEEN GIVEN THE TOOLS TO DO THE JOB!



I FEEL LIKE A LIVING DYNAMO! I'VE BECOME ALL MUSCLE! I CAN LICK ANYBODY!

THE EXPERIMENT IS OVER! THERE'S NOTHING MORE I CAN DO!

GOOD! NOW LET'S PUT HIM IN A COSTUME! I HAVE THE PERFECT DESIGN SPIDER-MAN DEFEATED BY SOMEONE JUST LIKE HIM... IT WILL BE POETIC JUSTICE!



AND SO...

NOTICE HOW HE CAN MANIPULATE HIS TAIL AUTOMATICALLY! HIS INVOLUNTARY NERVE IMPULSES, ACTIVATED BY MENTAL COMMANDS, SERVE TO...

LOOK, SPARE ME THE EXPLANATIONS, STILLWELL! JUST SO LONG AS HE SMASHES SPIDER-MAN!

GIVE ME SOMETHING TO TEST MY STRENGTH ON! I'VE GOTTA SEE IF I'M AS POWERFUL AS I FEEL!



THERE! SATISFIED?

A GRANITE BLOCK! AND I CAN PULL IT APART WITH MY BARE HANDS! DOC, YOU'RE A GENIUS!



WAIT! LOOK OUT! WHAT ARE YOU DOING??

HUH? WHAT...? HEY... HOW DID THAT HAPPEN??

IT'S YOUR TAIL! YOU'VE FORGOTTEN IT'S ATTACHED TO YOUR BACK! YOU HAVEN'T FULLY LEARNED TO CONTROL IT YET!

IT'S LIKE A SLEDGE-HAMMER! SPIDER-MAN WON'T STAND A CHANCE!



YOU'LL HAVE TO SPEND SOME TIME PRACTICING... COORDINATE YOUR MOVEMENTS... TO FAMILIARIZE YOURSELF WITH YOUR NEW POWERS!

AW, WHY WASTE TIME? I FEEL LIKE I COULD LICK AN ARMY RIGHT NOW!

DO AS DR. STILLWELL SAYS, GARGAN! REMEMBER, I'M STILL THE ONE PAYING YOU! REPORT TO ME FOR INSTRUCTIONS WHEN HE SAYS YOU'RE READY!





CONTINUED AFTER NEXT PAGE

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Let A Panel Of Top Cartoonists Show YOU HOW TO BE A SUCCESSFUL COMIC ARTIST

AT HOME... IN YOUR SPARE TIME... AT LOW COST

YES, IN THE PRIVACY OF YOUR OWN HOME... at a fantastically low cost... YOU can start developing your hidden talents without a real goal! If you have any feeling for art... if you like to draw... then a highly successful, well-paying career in Comic Art can be yours!

AMAZING NEW METHOD YOU NOW LET TOP PROFESSIONALS SHOW YOU HOW A skilled editor of thousands of Comic books has combined his talents with the artistic brilliance of a panel of big-time stars from EVERY FIELD OF COMIC ART. The result... A DYNAMIC NEW METHOD OF TEACHING! Now, the experience and craftsmanship of these top-high professionals has been condensed into a six-lesson course that can teach YOU to DRAW AND SELL! A highly priced career is now within your grasp through this sensational, radically different Art Course. Your instructors are the artists who draw your Sunday funnies... your TV, movie, newspaper and comic book cartoons... and they ALL earn big money! You can, too!

TRADE SECRETS NEVER BEFORE REVEALED Now the success attained by this group of experts only after long years of struggle is handed to YOU! You will be taught to develop your natural artistic ability. You will be provided with inside trade secrets covering every phase of the business. You will receive exclusive information on rates, markets... how to prepare your samples... plus hundreds of other valuable tips.

NO CONTRACTS - NO SALESMEN The cost of each lesson is only \$5.00. Unlike all the high-priced home-study courses requiring a long-term, non-cancellable contract, the ART DIRECTORS' COURSE is offered ONE LESSON AT A TIME! Simply send \$5.00 for Lesson Number One. If you wish to continue, you may order the succeeding five lessons at \$2.00 each. You are never under any obligation to continue... you may stop after any lesson... as simple... and safe... as that!

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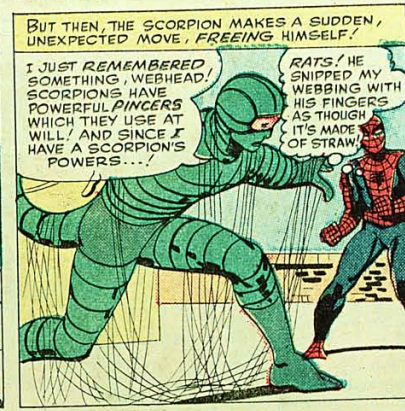
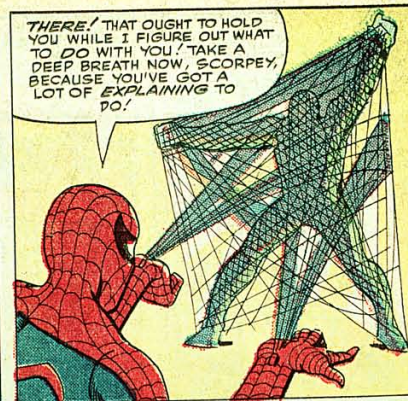
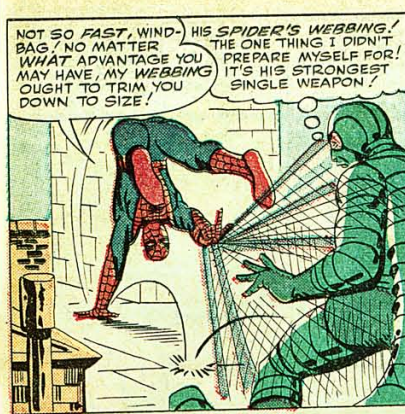
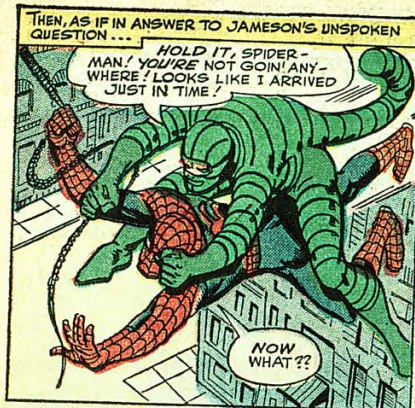
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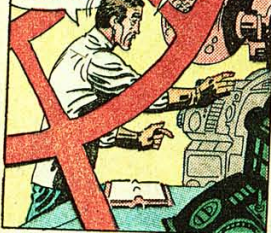
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MEANWHILE, STILL WORKING IN HIS LAB, DR. FARLEY STILLWELL HAS SOME VERY SERIOUS MISGIVINGS...

ACCORDING TO THESE NEW TESTS, THE SCORPION WILL BE EVEN MORE POWERFUL THAN I THOUGHT!

AND THE MORE HIS STRENGTH INCREASES, THE MORE HIS EVIL NATURE WILL TAKE OVER!



I MUST HAVE BEEN MAD TO DO WHAT I DID! MONEY ISN'T THAT IMPORTANT! I MAY HAVE UNLEASHED ONE OF THE WORST DANGERS OF ALL TIME UPON MANKIND!



BUT THERE'S STILL A CHANCE TO MAKE AMENDS... IF I MOVE FAST ENOUGH!



IF I CAN GET THIS SERUM TO HIM IN TIME, IT WILL SERVE AS AN ANTIDOTE! HE'LL LOSE HIS DEADLY POWERS BEFORE IT IS TOO LATE!



AND, AS THE DESPERATE SCIENTIST RUSHES INTO THE STREET, THE SCORPION PROVES TO BE AS POWERFUL AS STILLWELL FEARED...

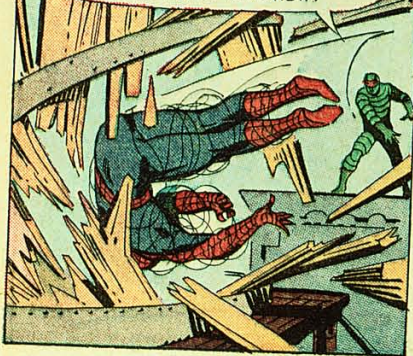
HOW DOES IT FEEL TO BE ON RECEIVING END FOR ONCE, LITTLE MAN?? WHAT SAMATTER? CAT GOT YOUR TONGUE?



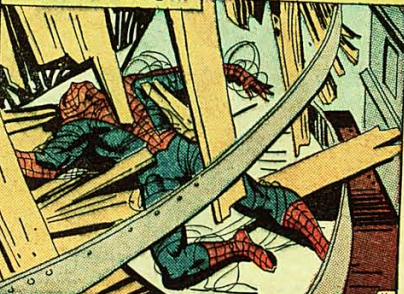
HOW ABOUT THAT? I KNOCKED HIM OUT!! THIS IS THE EASIEST TEN GRAND ANYONE'S EVER MADE!



OKAY, USELESS... YOU CAN SLEEP IT OFF IN THAT EMPTY WATER TOWER! I'VE GOT OTHER THINGS TO DO NOW!



THUS SPIDER-MAN SUFFERS ONE OF HIS GREATEST DEFEATS, AS HE LIES MOTIONLESS ATOP THE ROOF. HIS MIGHTY MUSCLES STILLED... HIS POTENT SPIDER POWER TEMPORARILY DORMANT... ONLY THE BEATING OF HIS VALIANT HEART TESTIFYING TO THE LIFE WHICH REMAINS... TO THE AWESOME ENERGY WHICH IS SLOWLY RETURNING...



WHILE, A SCANT FEW YARDS AWAY, HIS TRIUMPHANT FOE CHORTLES WITH GHOULISH GLEE...

I'VE WON! I'VE BEATEN SPIDER-MAN! HE NEVER HAD A CHANCE!



OH, NO! I NEVER EXPECTED THAT! IF THE SCORPION TURNS AGAINST ME, THEN I'VE GONE FROM THE FRYING PAN INTO THE FIRE!



WAIT! COME BACK! SOMEONE MIGHT SEE YOU! STOP!!

WITH HIS INCREDIBLY POWERFUL Pincer-like Fingers, THE SCORPION FEELS THE UPPER STEEL PLATE FROM THE ROOF OF THE CAR AS THOUGH IT'S MADE OF CARDBOARD! BUT THEN...



EMPTY! THERE'S NOTHING INSIDE!

AND, IF I CAN BEAT HIM SO EASY, THEN NOBODY CAN STOP ME! THE WHOLE CITY IS MINE FOR THE TAKING!



SUDDENLY, JONAH JAMESON'S VOICE RINGS OUT FROM A WINDOW BELOW...

SCORPION! WHERE'S SPIDER-MAN? BRING HIM TO ME SO I CAN UNMASK HIM!



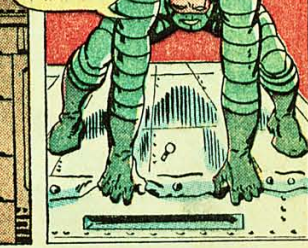
GET HIM YOURSELF! I'M TAKING ORDERS FROM YOU, MISTER! NOBODY TELLS THE SCORPION WHAT TO DO!

THE FOOL! AS IF I CARE WHETHER I'M SEEN OR NOT!!



WELL, WELL! AN ARMORED CAR! HERE'S MY CHANCE TO GET A LITTLE SPENDING MONEY!

SOMEONE WITH MY STRENGTH DOESN'T HAVE TO DEPEND ON A BOSS TO PAY HIM!



NO WONDER! THEY'RE BRINGING SOMETHING NOW!



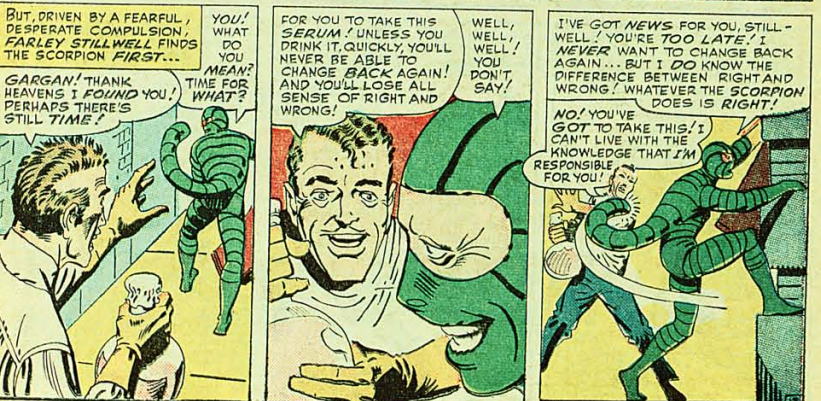
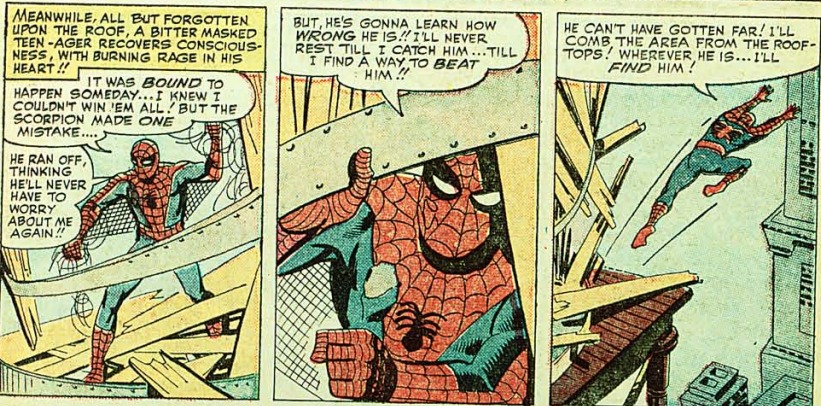
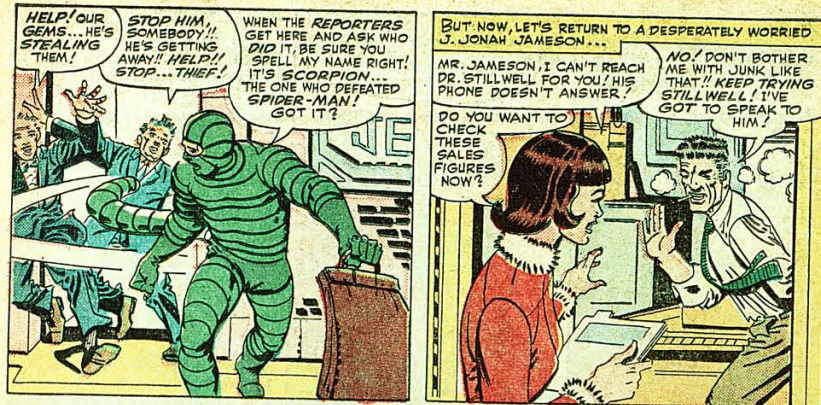
WELCOME, BOYS! I'VE BEEN WAITING FOR YOU!

HOLY COW! WHAT'S THAT?



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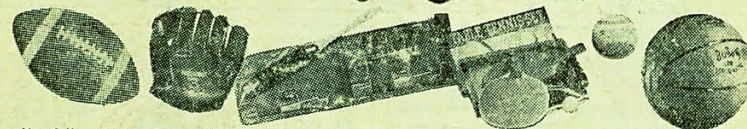
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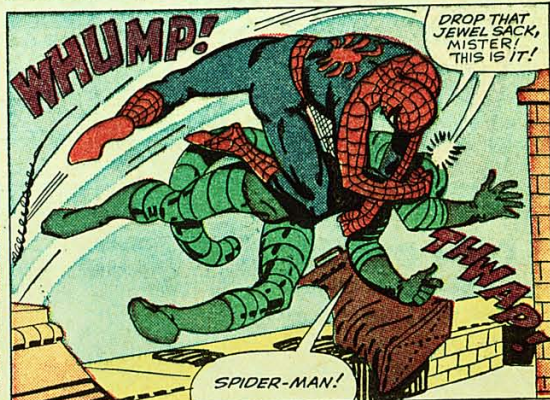
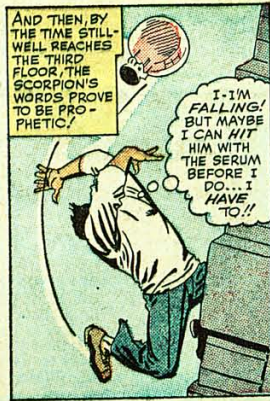
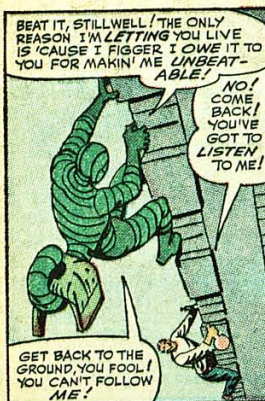
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HEROIC... BAH! I JUST DON'T WANT ANYONE TO HEAR HIM IF HE'S GOING TO SAY SOMETHING THAT'LL CONNECT ME TO HIM!

WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE? WHAT DO YOU WANT??

CAN'T YOU GUESS?

STOP! DON'T COME ANY CLOSER! YOU'RE MAD! I'LL PAY ANY PRICE... BUT DON'T HURT ME... STOP!

DON'T BE SO GREEDY, SCORPION! YOU SHOULD LEARN TO FINISH WITH ONE ENEMY BEFORE YOU TACKLE ANOTHER!

SPIDER-MAN!!

YOU SHOULD HAVE ESCAPED WHILE YOU HAD THE CHANCE, YOU FOOL!

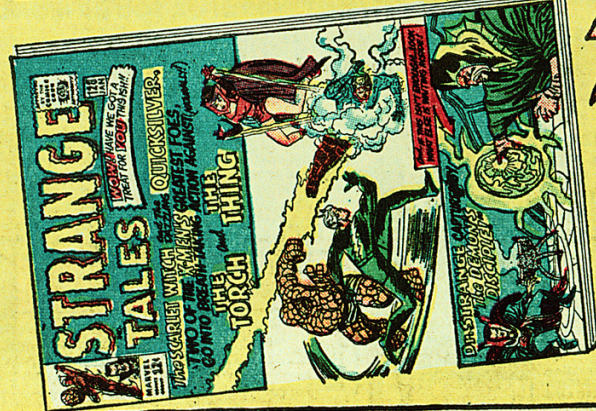
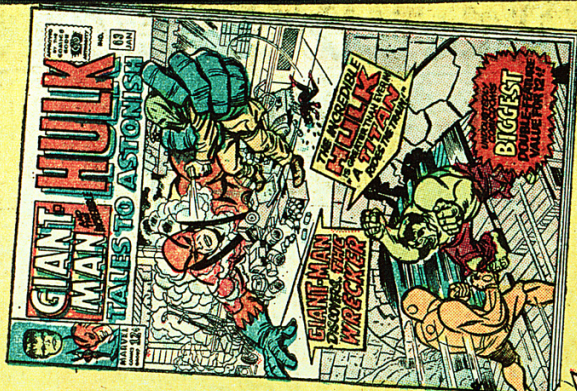
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SPIDER'S WEB

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NEW YORK 10022
N.Y.

Dear Stan and Steve,

Just a note to let you know how much your comics are appreciated here at Wabash College. This is an all-men's school so we have to do something for entertainment — your comics are cheaper than movies and almost as relaxing. Your unparalleled imaginations and talent for flip-pant remarks have drawn a loyal (if somewhat neurotic) following — almost all of us in the Rji house here.

Rhiman A. Rotz, Jr., Phi Gamma Delta
Wabash College, Crawfordsville, Ind.

Good to hear from you fellow neurotics! By the way, keep your eyes peeled. Peter Parker will have to go to college sooner or later, and you might see him skip-pin' around the campus at Wabash some day!

Dear Stan and Steve,

I am pleased with your latest issues of Spider-Man. By the way, why don't you keep a column for "Pen Friends"? If you do, please write my name and address and also my hobbies, which are: collecting stamps, reading, and dancing. My age is 13. Please find me about 5 to 8 pen friends in America.

Intiaz Alladina, P.O. Box No. 367
Tanga, Tanganyika, East Africa

Immy, old buddy, we don't usually list pen pals' names. If we did, we'd have room for almost nothing else! But, when we get a request from someone as far away as Tanganyika, we've just got to print the letter! We're delighted that Spidey has readers in East Africa — and, if he ever wants to go someplace for an exotic vacation, who knows?

Dear Stan and Steve,

"Warning!! If you don't say this is one of the greatest issues you've ever read, we may never talk to you again!" Well, I guess you're never going to talk to me again, because Spider-Man #16 wasn't one of the greatest issues I've ever read; it was the absolute greatest aggregate of paper, printers' ink, staples, and just plain hard work put into comic book form that I have ever read! I have read literally thousands of comics, and of all of them, I can truthfully say that issue #16 of Spider-Man was the best single comic of all. The cover was magnificent, and I am at a complete loss of words to express my feelings concerning the story! No doubt the key word to the incredible Marvel success formula is *action*! When I buy a comic, that's the reason why and I'm glad you guys know it and take advantage of your knowledge! If there's only one thing in this world I like, it's swashbuckling, devil-may-care action, and brother, do you give it to us! Stan Lee is truly the master of the spoken word! He has to be, to come up with the wild, daring, and beautifully human yet comical speech which pours forth from the Spider-Man's lips in every panel. I've really got to congratulate you on the fine job you've done!

Ken Dixon, 674 Buttonwood Drive
Springfield, Pa. 19064

Well, it happened again, Ken! Stan's head just swelled to a still bigger size! He's beginning to look like one of our own sci-fi men of the future, and it's all your fault!

Dear Stan and Steve,

In the name of humanity, stop it! I am talking about the long, agonizing wait between the issues of Spider-Man. Just last month, twelve people committed suicide because they couldn't stand the wait. And that was just on our block! We faithful fans must have at least a weekly supply of Spider-Man adventures, or we all may become unhinged. For no other mag is so skillfully prepared and so thoroughly enjoyed. How you can surpass yourselves time

after time is a mystery in itself, but ours is not to make reply, ours is not to reason why, ours is but to read and buy.

Mark Harkins, 5121 Holmes Runn Pkwy,
Alexandria, Virginia

A truly beautiful letter, Mark, eloquent in its simplicity, shattering in its power, radiant in its shining truth! There's not a dry eye in the bullpen, lad!

Dear Stan and Steve,

Wow!! What a comic! Spidey is the greatest!! He is so realistic and human, it is almost as though there actually were a Spider-Man. I really enjoy reading all of your Marvel comics, but Spidey is my favorite. I am one of your most loyal fans.

John Turner, 3124 Colfax
Topeka, Kansas

Some loyal fan!!! So, it's almost as though there actually were a Spider-Man, eh? And just who do you think Petey Parker is, Johnny — one of the Katzenjammer Kids?

Dear Stan and Steve,

We are all gathered here (I am, at least) to pay tribute to Mr. Stan Lee and Mr. Steve Ditko, who have done a truly magnificent job on the recent Spider-Man Annual. The main story of the Sinister Six (Boy! What names you guys think up!) was great, great, great. I mean Super-Duper! I liked especially the full page scenes Spidey had with each of the baddies, like that one on page 16. That was the best picture of the story, I think. (Not that the others weren't great, Steve.) Steve did a wonderful job on the Fantastic Four, better than he's ever done before. The story was terrific all-around, except that you should have had all of the Sinister Six battle Spidey at once. That would have had great action! By the way, thanks for your informative "Secrets of Spider-Man" section! It answered a lot of my questions. Also, thanks for the "Gallery of Spider-Man's Most Famous Foes," and that funny "How Stan Lee and Steve Ditko Create Spider-Man." One last comment: Why does Stan Lee always get top billing? (I love to start arguments.)

Gary Rafferty, 19 120th Street
Troy, N.Y.

Because Stan is so talented, lovable, clever, and witty! (And mainly because he's the bullpen boss!)

Dear Stan and Steve,

Y'know, when I read the Spider-Man Annual, I felt sorry for you guys, because it's going to be pretty hard to outdo yourselves now. Let's face it — it was beyond a shadow of a doubt the most colorful, ironic, motion-packed story that I have ever had the chance to read. Well, first I'll give you my praises, and then my punches. The plot was more interwoven than Spidey's web, and it was simply amazing how you could write it. You were probably up every night since March doing the darned story. It was very nice of you guys to keep the introductory paragraph down to an arrowful. The art was something I've never seen before. Those full-page action fights were the greatest masterpieces I've seen in many a good year, and I'm sure any comic collector would praise it. You should have all those pictures bronzed, or put them in the Westinghouse time capsule. The script was unique — the jargon of the different heroes and villains was interesting, and each character had practically a different tongue. Aunt May's opinion of Doc Ock was refreshing, and offered a sense of frustration to most every reader. J.J.J. always amuses me. I wonder if he is symbolic of someone whom you don't take a particular craving to. Well, so far you must be patting yourselves on the back, but don't strain yourselves,

Continued...

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because I now have a few choice words to say to you about how you botched the whole thing up. Why did you put those ads in the corners of the panels? That was undoubtedly the most foolish move you could have made. Here, I'm concentrating on the story, when my train of thought is interrupted by: "The X-Men appear bi-monthly in their own feature-length magazine." I should think that mostly everybody knows where to look for the Marvel characters. Second—it seems to me that Professor X is a rather close-minded man, or else he wouldn't have told the X-Men to ignore the Tokyo message. What if he heard (for the sake of argument) that the world was to explode, and that the Avengers should come to action. Would Prof. X just disregard it? I assume not. Another bit of irritation is that Doc Ock can mentally control his arms. Every issue you make the villain stronger. How about making the hero weaker? One more thing—I think it would be of interest if Spidey revealed his identity to either Aunt May or Betty Brant. It would be interesting to see how you could handle a story like that. Well, I'm clean out of comments, so expect another letter when the next Annual comes out!

Charles Lichtman, 1261 Merriam Ave.
Bronx, N.Y.

Take it easy, Charlie—we may not be finished reading this letter by the time the next annual comes out! Anyway, as far as Spidey revealing his true identity to Betty or mirthful Aunt May, we'd kinda like to get some more opinions from some more of you web-spinners. And our guess is that most of you *won't* want him to tell! We'll give the result later on—okay?

MEMO FROM THE M.M.M.S.

("Merry Marvel Marching Society" to you!) Things are going great guns with our new Marvel Club! We have all sorts of special surprises and off-beat treats planned! But we want to wait till next ish before our official membership application coupon appears. (This will give us time to make sure that all the comments and ideas we asked you for have been received and read.) But, we can tell you this much: membership will be one dollar! (Making it possibly the most expensive club of its type!) So start saving your loose change now! But, for gosh sakes, we don't want your buck unless you can easily afford it. If you're strapped for cash, forget it! You can join a month later, or a year later! You won't miss anything important! There'll be no secret code messages which only Marvel Marchers can understand, or any other juvenile jazz like that! But for those of you who do join we guarantee a million laughs and a barrel of fun! So, watch for our big full-page official announcement next month, describing the club in detail and containing our first publicly-offered membership coupon! We have a hunch that the ol' M.M.M.S. will be the biggest thing since squirrel tails! But, as always, it's up to you! 'Nuff said!

Dear Stan and Steve,

May I congratulate you on your new villain, the Green Goblin. He is one of the best crooks you've ever created. Could you have Spider-Man meet up with the Scarecrow? In my opinion, the Scarecrow is the most original villain ever created. Among my favorite comic villains are Dr. Doll, Dr. Doom, the Enforcers, Mysterio, and the Wizard. I think all your comics are top rate. I am not an American, by the way. I am Italian, but I go to an American school. Since my mother is from the U.S., I learned English at school, although I've never been in America. Will your comics ever be translated? I hope so, because buying them in English gets rather expensive. Well, I guess I'm getting carried away, so I better quit while I'm ahead. My best wishes from Rome, and keep up the good work.

Aldo Falchini, 163 Viale Cogley
Rome, Italy

We'll look into the matter of translating our mags for you. Also, we didn't know the English versions were so expensive in Italy. And, as for Spidey meeting some of those other villains you named, you know how t'ings are in the Marvel mags—*if* he lives long enough, he'll probably meet *all* of them! Arrivederci! Dear Stan and Steve,

I've been reading the letters about having Spider-Man join a team. I say having Spider-Man join a team is like

having Jonah Jameson dating Aunt May!

Sandy Loomis, Rt. 2, Box 252
Roswell, N.M.

Say, now! There's an idea! It's about time Aunt May found herself a fella! Now, if she can just get over her crush on Doc Ock...



SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS SECTION:

—Can you guess what one of the most agonizing feelings in the world is?? Well, we'll tell you—it's having a special announcements section to write when you haven't anything special to announce! Oh well—we'll think of something!

—One thing we always get a kick out of is the occasional fan who writes in to demand that we give sunny Steve some more strips to draw! Poor ol' darling! Ditko does about twenty pages of Spidey each month—plus ten pages of Dr. Strange—plus ten pages of the Hulk—and he still finds time to argue with Stan for a few hours each week! If he gets one more thing to do, he'll either have to run for the hills, or grow another set of arms like Doc Ock! (And then we'd have to give him a raise, because you know how expensive four-armed suits are!) But, speaking of artists—don't dare miss our newest addition to the magnificent Marvel line-up! He's none other than the famous Wally Wood, whose illustrations have been featured in MAD and many other of the nation's top mags! And, if you wanna find out what he's going to draw, you'll have to read our coming attractions section which is on this page. (Just another new sneaky Marvel device to make sure you read everything we write!)

THE MIGHTY MARVEL CHECKLIST I

A Line-Up Of Some Of The Marvelous Mags On Sale Right Now:
FANTASTIC FOUR #34: The World's Greatest Comic Mag presents a startlingly different theme, in which the fabulous foursome are forced to battle each other! You will also thrill to the strangely fascinating villainy of the man called Gideon!
AVENGERS #11: All we need tell you about this one is that the Avengers battle Spider-Man! No matter how we brag about it, you're sure to rave even more!
DAREDEVIL #5: You'll never forgive yourself if you miss famous artist Wally Wood's first appearance in the Marvel Age, as he brings new grandeur to Daredevil's breath-taking battle with... the Matador!

THOR #111: The one you've been waiting for! Fighting mad as never before, with the girl he loves dying, mighty Thor strikes back at the Cobra and Mr. Hyde with all the awesome power at his command!

STRANGE TALES #128: A real treat for X-Men fans! The Torch and the Thing battle Quicksilver and the Scarlet Witch! As for Dr. Strange, he has his hands full when he faces the Demon's Disciple! Truly an epic issue!

SUSPENSE #61: All we dare tell you about the sensational Iron Man thriller is that you'll learn what happens to the Golden Avenger when Tony Stark dies! And, in answer to so many requests, Captain America will be seen in a gripping war adventure reminiscent of the days of his former glory!

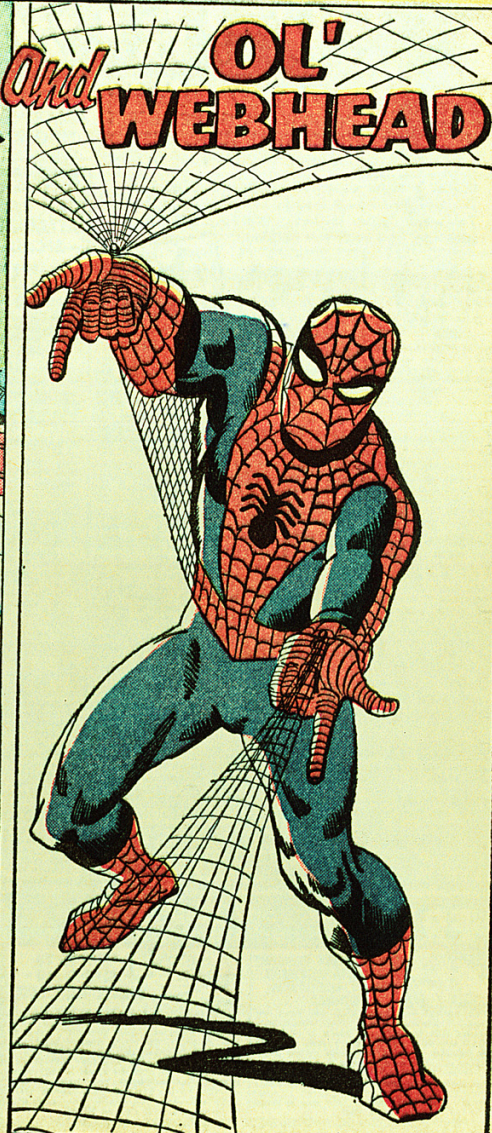
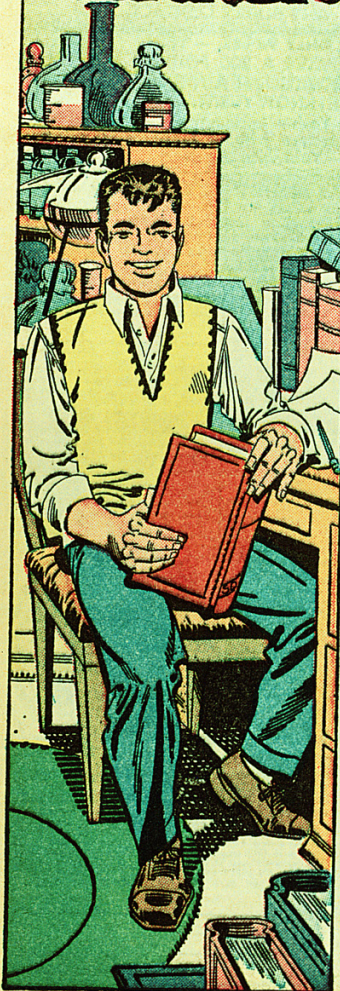
ASTONISH #63: Everyone's talking about the way talented artist Carl Burgos is breathing new life into the Giant-Man feature. You're sure to enjoy High-Pockets' hustle with the Wrecker! Meantime, the sensational Hulk hosts his most dangerous enemy in "A Titan Rides The Train!" You'll love it! SGT. FURY #12: This is it! At last the Howlers meet Captain America in the battle drama of the year! Buy this one early. It's certain to be a sell-out!

—Okay, time now for the really big news—a hint of what you'll find in the next ish of SPIDER-MAN! And a hint is all you'll get, because it's all you'll need! We'll tell you only one thing—Spidey #21 will feature none other than—THE HUMAN TORCH!! Better be sure to buy it the first week it goes on sale—it won't last much longer! But you needn't become a nervous wreck till then! We won't mind a bit if you buy our other Marvel mags while you're waiting!

A MARVEL MASTERWORK PiN-UP

PETER PARKER

OL' WEBHEAD



BOYS! MEN! I'LL HELP YOU MASTER

YUBIWAZA

— says N.J. FLEMING — YUBIWAZA MASTER

*** (YUBIWAZA IS THE SECRET, AMAZINGLY EASY ART OF SELF-DEFENSE THAT TURNS JUST ONE FINGER OR YOUR HANDS INTO A POTENT WEAPON OF DEFENSE—WITHOUT ANY BODILY CONTACT...)**

In just 2 hours after you receive "YUBIWAZA" you will be on your way to being an invincible Yubiwa Master, at home, this Fast, EASY picture way or it costs you nothing.



WHAT YUBIWAZA CAN DO FOR YOU IN JUST A FEW SECONDS...
 11:05 P.M. — You return from dance. Hoodlums throw insulting remarks to you. **11:06 P.M. — They attack you with fists and bottles. You counterattack, every hoodlum is on the run.**

THE VITAL Decision is YOURS to make. Which shall it be? **[] To play it "chicken" by running away? [] Be a "hothead" and be beaten up? Mail coupon now and be prepared with Yubiwa to send your attackers flying!**

I'M A 3rd-DEGREE HOLDER OF THE BLACK BELT—SYMBOL OF HIGH PROFICIENCY IN THE JAPANESE SYSTEM OF SELF-DEFENSE THAT USES NO WEAPONS BUT BARE HANDS. I spent many years in Japan learning these little-known SECRETS. The most amazingly effective of all Self-Defense techniques that stood out in ALL my Japanese Training is contained in my AMAZING new Yubiwa book—all yours to have if you ACT NOW. **YUBIWAZA** is the name of a fantastic system of Self-Defense that makes use of an EASY-to-Learn knowledge of vital body areas and the techniques of the use of just ONE Finger or even entire hand to counteract & overcome ANY violent attack. It is commonly known that with the aid of Yubiwa, young men & girls, too!—with only a few hours of training, turn back 2, 3 and even 4 attackers!—temporarily DISABLING ONE, putting another to flight, making a third howl with pain, while the fourth begged his opponent to stop!

NOW YOU TOO CAN LEARN YUBIWAZA!

The experts in Japan, who know and teach these ONE-finger techniques, have now explained that YUBIWAZA is a centuries-old system of Self-Defense which is so simple and so effective that outsiders were never instructed in its use. The system was restricted to Japanese who SWORE to apply these methods only in time of danger and attack by an aggressor. Many of the very techniques in my Yubiwa book, once highly guarded secrets of the ancient Samurai warriors never shared to outsiders are now shown to you—FIRST TIME!

YUBIWAZA SYSTEM, DEPT. Y-134, 285 Market St. NEWARK 2, NEW JERSEY

FREE WITH YOUR ORDER — THESE 2 THRILLING AND USEFUL GIFTS!

HOW TO EASILY OVERCOME AND MASTER INFERIORITY COMPLEX, BASHFULNESS, SHYNESS
 Follow—did you know that you have unexplored resources within your personality—assets that can help you along in life? You can win more girls and your friends! Your personality is being smothered by an inferiority complex, or if you are bashful or shy when you MUST read this amazing new Guide to overcoming these handicaps. You learn how to make the "right" approach... what to say and how to act... plus how to break the ice, many valuable tips!

"I WEIGH ONLY 98 LBS. — YET I CAN PARALYZE A 200 POUND ATTACKER WITH JUST A FINGER — BECAUSE I KNOW YUBIWAZA!"

says Yoshie Imanami — Pretty Japanese wife of N.J. Fleming — Yubiwa Master

can make him say "undo" quickly — with the help of YUBIWAZA!
MASTER EVERY SITUATION!

Make no mistake! The world is crowded with anti-social enemies who think nothing of attacking a knife into the ribs... or attacking peace-loving citizens just for the fun of it... or molesting boys and girls shamelessly. There is a crying need for a system of self-defense that relies on KNOWLEDGE, not big muscles or strength... not depend on TECHNIQUE... not on weight or size of body... that is based on simple TRAINING—not on illegal possession of weapons.

EASY—And I am now ready to show you, too, through clear, easy-to-understand photos, every secret. I guarantee to make you a YUBIWAZA specialist in 1 hour or even less if you paid will be refunded. You don't have to attend my school where I train beginners like you and turn them into experts. Now I can show you how to practice YUBIWAZA in the privacy of your own home with only a few minutes of practice a day. I'll show you how to defend yourself against hoodlums, bullies, "wise guys" and juvenile delinquents who respect neither lives nor property.

When you apply YUBIWAZA methods, you can cut an aggressor down with JUST ONE FINGER! You can disarm an opponent rushing you with his fists, a broken bottle, a revolver or any kind of bludgeon. You can turn an aggressor's attack into your advantage with only one finger or your bare hands. No matter what the action gets, the action gets YUBIWAZA keeps you "on top." You can apply simple pressure of your finger against any one of a dozen or more vital nerve centers of your opponent and watch his gun or knife fall from his limp hand while he himself sinks to the ground completely helpless and faint. If the neighborhood bully pushes you, you now know how to handle yourself.

BECOME A NEW MAN! Knowledge of YUBIWAZA will turn you into a NEW MAN even if you never actually have to use it! For you will become SELF-ASSURED through your ability to handle yourself. You will walk with a determined and confident air secure with the knowledge that NOTHING can frighten you... that you can deal with ANY man, ANY weapon, ANY situation—and that you can do all this with NO bodily contact! And you will win respect and admiration from everyone.

Thousands of men of all ages have won confidence and respect by learning YUBIWAZA. YOU can learn the same! You owe it to your own peace of mind... to your friends and loved ones! You are able to do this at any time and place from hoodlums, criminals and delinquents. So mail COUPON NOW for my COMPLETE Instruction on YUBIWAZA. If you and your friends don't see that YUBIWAZA has made a NEW MAN out of you, every cent will be refunded!

TWO FREE GIFTS!
 If you order now, I'll include without extra charge 2 free gifts: your personal copy of HOW TO EASILY OVERCOME AND MASTER AN INFERIORITY COMPLEX, BASHFULNESS AND SHYNESS—plus HOW TO DO STRONG-MAN STUNTS WITH EASE. And if you order promptly, I'll also include without extra charge your personal membership Card in the American Yubiwa Federation.

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 Rush your completed YUBIWAZA coupon in plain wrapper. I enclose \$2.98 as payment in full—nothing more to buy. My friends and I must be delighted with my amazing new YUBIWAZA book or you will refund my money in full. Include my FREE gifts with YUBIWAZA—my personal copy of HOW TO EASILY OVERCOME AND MASTER AN INFERIORITY COMPLEX, BASHFULNESS AND SHYNESS AND HOW TO DO STRONG-MAN STUNTS WITH EASE.

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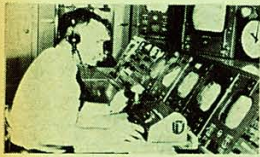
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THE POST-HYPNOTIC
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HYPNOTIZE YOURSELF

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For years the knowledge of how to produce hypnotic sleep has been so used but only a few have mastered this art. But now the veil of secrecy has been lifted and the innermost SECRETS and techniques revealed. The fact is that Hypnotism is a scientific fact that most anyone with average intelligence can learn. Once you know the secrets and methods you can bring about this strange and wonderful control that has been used by doctors, psychiatrists and entertainers in the past. Yes, now this remarkable phenomena will be yours to use for pleasure, self-development and countless other benefits.

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